

HUNGARIAN Stamps With Official Punching - - Some Corrected Data

by L. S. Ettre

In the February-March 1971 issues of the News of Hungarian Philately (the monthly publication of the Society for Hungarian Philately, Unit No. 34 of the American Philatelic Society), I published a two-part article entitled HUNGARIAN STAMPS WITH OFFICIAL PUNCHING. This article was also later reprinted as a brochure by The Perfins Club, for its members. In this article, I discussed in detail - among others - the Hungarian stamps with three-hole punching, forming a triangle and issued between 1921 and 1924.

When I wrote my article, I already had a complete collection of the 100 stamps existing with this perforation: however, I did not have sufficient larger blocks or full sheets to check the location of these stamps within a sheet. For this reason, I repeated what was said in the Magyar Bélyegek Monográfiája (Monography of Hungarian Stamps, a six-volume monography published by the Federation of Hungarian Philatelists, Budapest, Hungary) - Vol. I, p. 585 and Vol. IV, p. 356 - as well as in an article in the Filatéliai Szemle, the monthly journal of the Hungarian society.

Since that time, I completed my collection with full sheets and/or large blocks of the various stamp types and found that the information given in the quoted Hungarian publications, and thus, consequently in my own article, is partly wrong.

I would like to give the correct information to the readers of the Perfins Bulletin.

Six different stamp types have been issued with the three-hole punching and we have to discuss them separately: harvester stamps, auxiliary postage due stamps (overprinted harvester stamps), postage due stamps, official stamps, parliament stamps, and Madonna stamps.

Harvester stamps. Here the information is correct: the three-hole punched stamps occupy the two middle vertical columns. If we place the full sheet before us on the table, then the top of the triangle is upward.

Auxiliary postage due stamps. Since these represent overprinted harvester stamps, the position of the three-hole punched stamps is identical to that given for the harvester stamps.

Postage due stamps. The size of these stamps is the same as that of the harvester stamps except that each stamp is of a horizontal format. Thus, their sheet can be considered as a sheet of the harvester stamps but turned 90° to the right. Correspondingly, here, the three-hole punched stamps occupy the two middle horizontal rows (placing the sheet before us so that we can read the text). Now the triangle points to the right.

Official stamps. The size of these stamps is the same as of the postage due stamps and the position of the three-hole punched stamps is also the same: they occupy the two middle horizontal rows and the triangle points toward the right.

Parliament stamps. These stamps are also horizontal in format, but their width is longer than that of the postage due and official stamps. Again, the three-hole punched stamps occupy the two middle horizontal rows but the triangle points upward!

Madonna stamps. Although the format of their sheet is similar to that of the harvester stamps (except that the stamps are larger), the posi-

tion of the three-hole punched stamps is different: they occupy the two middle horizontal - and not vertical - rows and the triangles point upward.

In other words, the original information given for the parliament and Madonna stamps was incorrect.

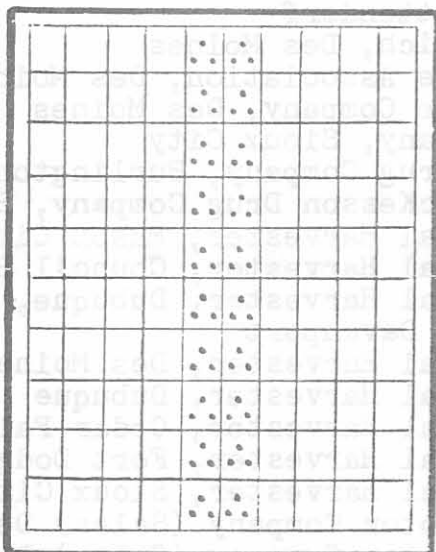
The drawings below give sheet reconstructions, indicating the position of the three-hole punched stamps and the position of the triangles.

As mentioned, I have either full sheets or large blocks of each stamp type and thus, I can prove the correctness of these positions.

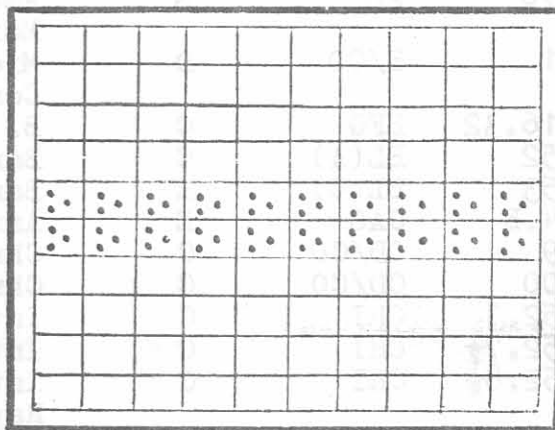
(Editor's note: L. S. Ettre exhibited his collection of Hungarian Stamps With Official Punching at Elpex '73. The exhibit won second prize in the Perfin category.)

THE TYPES OF THE THREE-HOLE PUNCHING

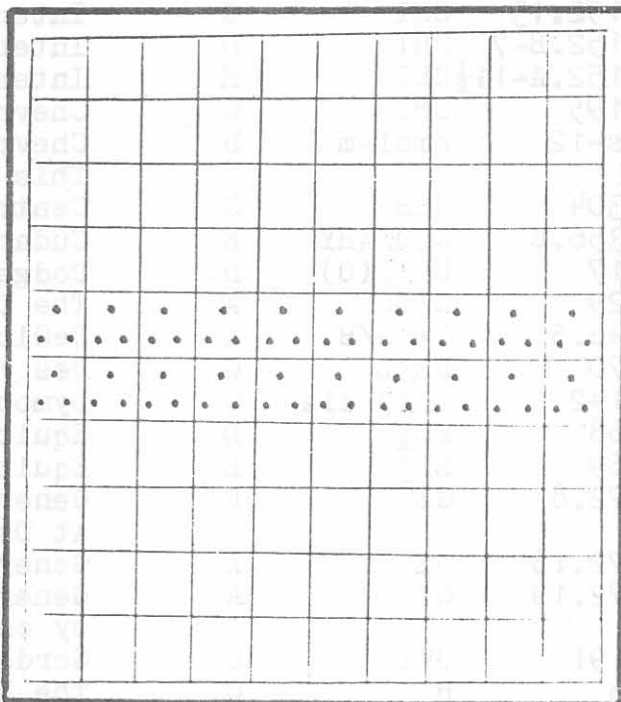
Harvester and auxiliary postage due stamps (over-printed on harvester stamps)



Postage due and official stamps



Madonna stamps



Parliament stamps

